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precisely on the ground that so long as any nation is not subject to some law of definite production in this field it cannot be said to be "disarmed" or to be a safe neighbor or rival. He would have Germany disarm chemically as well as by land and sea.

"THE NEWS AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS"

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the Associated Press, at the recent annual meeting of that co-operative news collecting and distributing agency, said in its formal report: "Abroad we expanded our news resources as conspicuously as at home. We depend less upon European agencies and more upon our own trained staff newsmen." This fact is due in part to the disclosures of the war, and after, as to how perverted for European and Asiatic ends news not sent through wholly American channels was and had been for years. While it is of the utmost importance that collectors and forwarders of foreign news to the United States should have "the international mind," it is equally true that they must be able to get through to their reading constituency the real facts which their own "nationals" should know. The recently resigned Ambassador from the United States to Great Britain, Hon. John W. Davis, who hereafter is to be legal adviser for the Associated Press, speaking to its directors and main clients, has just said that our foreign policy has become and will hereafter be the most important feature of our national life. In which case, he added, it is of supreme importance that public opinion be based only upon "information transmitted from abroad with exactness." Never did a diplomat, active or retired, speak a truer word. The task of any news collecting and distributing agency grows more difficult in precise proportion as it tries to live up to this ideal. It may be geared to report political and diplomatic facts accurately and yet fail wholly in the field of economics and social ethics.

A latter-day development in the business of collecting and transmitting news, at least so far as the United States is concerned, is the legislation endorsed by the executive department, which provides that government-owned radio stations shall serve as transmitters of news, under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy. Whether obstacles to free, swift, and sure transmission of news gathered by American correspondents comes from American cable and radio companies or from foreign governments' censors, the government intends to overcome the opposition by using agencies for which the American people tax themselves and upon which they have a right to rely. It is true that in some cases it is a form of governmental competition with privately

owned business; but high court decisions are too numerous now for any opposition basing an appeal against the new policy on the ground of impairment of vested, private rights. Social needs rise above anything else; and if any corporations or governments challenge this claim they will be defeated in the court of public opinion. The American people want the truth about world happenings, and they intend to have it.

THE AMERICAN GROUP OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

THE AMERICAN GROUP of the Inter-Parliamentary Union ought to have no little influence upon America's foreign policy. This statement is justified by the outcome of a special meeting of the Group held in the Caucus Room, House Office Building, Washington, D. C., May 9, 1921. Senator William B. McKinley, president of the Group, called the attention of the gentlemen present to three matters of immediate interest to the members: First, to the selection of delegates to the Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Union at Stockholm, August 16-18, next; second, to the recommendations submitted by the Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in behalf of the Council; third, to the importance of inviting the new members of the Congress to become members of the American Group. Representative Theodore E. Burton, of Ohio, a member of the Group since 1904, briefly outlined the history of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and something of his ten years as a member of the Council. Mr. Burton related a number of his personal experiences at various meetings of the Union, particularly in London, 1906; in Paris, 1911, and at The Hague, in 1913. He expressed the view that the parliamentarians of the world are confronted with an unprecedented opportunity to serve in the cause of international justice. He appealed to the old members of the American Group to retain their membership and to the new members of the Congress to join with the efforts to promote finer fraternity among the parliamentarians of the world. Representative A. J. Montague, of Virginia, also urged upon those present the importance of the opportunity awaiting the Inter-Parliamentary Union, adding that every member both of the Senate and of the House should join the American Group.

A letter from Lord Weardale, of Great Britain, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a letter which was countersigned by Dr. Christian Lange, Secretary General, under date of April 15, was read, together with a set of resolutions passed by the Council of the Inter-Parliamentary Union at Geneva, April 12, 1921. The letter and resolutions were referred to a special com-

mittee of five, composed of Representatives Burton, Montague, Steenerson, Oldfield, and Senator Sterling.

Interest aroused in the meeting led to the passage of a unanimous vote: that a special meeting of the American Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union be held Tuesday evening, May 24, in the Caucus Room of the House Office Building; that Representative Burton be asked to address the meeting on such phases of the international situation as he might think appropriate to such an occasion, and that all members of the Congress be urged to attend the meeting, a number of the Congressmen present signifying their desire to attend the conference in Stockholm. The Executive Committee of the Group was given power to name and select delegates to that conference, which will meet in Stockholm, Sweden, August 17-19, the Swedish Group having renewed the offer of hospitality given in 1914. The government and the parliament are deeply interested and to the extent of granting a subsidy for conference expenses.

The Council of the Union has decided that, under prevailing circumstances, the coming conference will be limited in the number of representatives of the groups. Each group will have its two delegates to the Council, and in addition five representatives where the group has fifty members and one additional representative for each ten members up to the one hundred member group, when the ratio changes again.

The Organization Commission, which will report, has published documents dealing with the subjects, copies of which have been sent to the groups.

The agenda of the conference is as follows: (1) Election of the President and constitution of the bureau of the conference. (2) Report of the Inter-Parliamentary Bureau on the activity of the Council since the Eighteenth Conference. (3) The Inter-Parliamentary Union and the League of Nations. (4) The Inter-Parliamentary Union and the International Labor Office. (5) Revision of the Statutes of the Union. Rules for the Election of Delegates of the Groups to the Inter-Parliamentary Conferences. Report of the Organization Commission. (6) Reduction of Armaments. (7) The International Economical and Financial Problem and the League of Nations. (8) Organization of the Procedures of Inquiry and Conciliation within the League of Nations. (9) Communication of the names of the delegates of the groups to the Inter-Parliamentary Council for the period between the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Conferences. (10) Election of three members of the Executive Committee. (11) Place of meeting of the Twentieth Conference.

There is here pabulum enough to engage the attention of the best brains among the world's best parliamentarians. There ought to be no doubt about the necessity for an Inter-Parliamentary Union.

A SCHOOL FOR HIGHER POLITICS

THEY USED to sneer at James A. Garfield as the "scholar in politics" when he was a congressman and later when he was President. But he could not help believing that knowledge of history, diplomacy, international law, and "cultural" phrases of education had a very vital relation to his duties as a lawmaker and as an executive. This belief was due partly to the "personal equation" of the man and in part because he had sat, as a pupil, at the feet of Mark Hopkins, most famous of all the presidents of Williams College, Massachusetts.

Recalling this aspect of the career of the elder Garfield, it is not surprising to find his eldest son, the president of Williams College, projecting into the field of contemporary national education the scheme of a summer school or institute of politics, to be held annually at Williams College. This year the general subject of lectures, conferences, and study will be "international relations." Among the lecturers are listed men of international as well as national prominence. They include jurists, diplomats, practical administrators of government, as well as academic specialists famed for their knowledge of international law. Not a few of them are men whose names have been written large in the history of the times since 1914.

We gladly call attention to this "Institute," to be held from July 28 to August 27, in the exquisitely beautiful Berkshire village of Williamstown, and for two reasons: First, because it is belated recognition of the possibilities of a "summer school" geared to do a special job of civic pedagogics; and, second, because it is recognition by one of the elder American colleges of its patriotic duty at a time of grave crisis in the political world. Influential officials of government, no less than citizens of the most progressive and literate nations, are strongly tempted at this hour to think and act in terms of economics. There is a tremendously powerful undertow tending to reduce international relations, as well as internal national policies, to the purely utilitarian basis. A disposition to ignore traditions, precedents, and tested customs of statecraft and higher politics infects intellectual circles that hitherto have been far from radical.

The more necessary, therefore, is any project which utilizes spare time, as a summer school does, so that master and pupil, expert and novice, tried administrator and embryonic diplomat or consul, public official and the sovereign citizen, can together consider problems of society and of the State in the light of political ideals and tested experiments in government.

While we are commenting on this subject may we venture to say that one of the crying needs of the national capital is an adequately endowed, staffed, and